

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 301

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Greeneville High School Lady Devils soccer team upon winning the TSSAA Division I Class A/AA State Championship.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to specially honor and commend those successful young athletes who, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable group of Tennesseans is the Greeneville High School Lady Devils soccer team, which achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2016 season, winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Class A/AA State Soccer Championship; and

WHEREAS, led by Head Coach John Eiskamp, the team earned its second consecutive TSSAA Class A/AA State Championship with a thrilling 1-0 victory over Christ Presbyterian Academy in the championship match; and

WHEREAS, providing the championship goal, Lady Devil Jessica Sallah fired a shot with just six minutes remaining in regulation that flew past the Lions goalkeeper and snuck under the crossbar to break the scoreless tie; and

WHEREAS, the game had appeared headed for extra time as the action played out mainly in the midfield in the second half; each team only had one shot on goal before Ms. Sallah's eventual game winner hit the back of the net; and

WHEREAS, the deciding play started on a pass from Kenzie Ellenburg at the midfield circle; Ms. Sallah received the pass just above the half circle on the top of the eighteen-yard box and essentially passed the ball to herself, using her body to deflect the ball on a hop out to the right side; and

WHEREAS, absorbing contact along the way, Ms. Sallah out-raced her defender to the corner of the box and got a strong leg on her shot, despite running away from the goal, to give the Lady Devils the win and Greeneville back-to-back state championships; and

WHEREAS, the resolute Lady Devils' defense was led by starters Katlyn Jones, Savannah Doty, Lauren Albright, and Elizabeth McIntosh, playing in front of their flawless goalkeeper, Hannah Leonard, who saved all five shots on goal in the championship match to keep the team in the game; and

WHEREAS, Greeneville's potent offense out-shot their opponents 14-8 in the match as Ms. Sallah attempted four shots, Kenzie Ellenburg and Katherine Galoffin attempted three shots each, Sabrina Iezzi attempted two shots, and Elissa McIntosh and Kieron Bride each had one attempt; and

WHEREAS, proud to finish their careers as two-time state champions, the Greeneville Lady Devils benefited from the sterling leadership and dedication to excellence of their seven seniors, Jessica Sallah, Kenzie Ellenburg, Kieron Bride, Lauren Albright, Makensie Jones, Cabriella Lay, and Ashley Sanchez; and

WHEREAS, displaying great sportsmanship and outstanding character, both individually and collectively, the Greeneville Lady Devils players and coaches conducted themselves in a manner befitting the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, on their path to a second consecutive state championship, the Lady Devils enjoyed the support of their families, their community, and the students, faculty, and staff of Greeneville High School; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young women not only made possible a championship soccer season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Greeneville High School soccer team displayed uncommon talent, determination, and perseverance in their quest for athletic excellence and

championship laurels, and it is wholly fitting that they should be commended for attaining their lofty goals; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the players and coaches of the Greeneville High School Lady Devils soccer team upon winning the 2016 TSSAA Class A/AA State Soccer Championship, applaud their success, and extend our best wishes for continued success in their future endeavors as athletes, scholars, and citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.